

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MONTEV 02524 082013Z

54

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 AID-01 NSC-06 /024 W

----- 061301

R 081855Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1665

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTEVIDEO 2524

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, OVIP (HELMS, JESSE A.), UY

SUBJ: SENATOR HELMS VISIT TO URUGUAY

REF: MONTEVIDEO 2368

1. SUMMARY: SENATOR JESSE HELMS, ACCOMPANIED BY A PARTY OF FIVE, VISITED MONTEVIDEO JULY 6-7. DURING HIS VISIT HE MET WITH FONMIN BLANCO AND OTHER SENIOR GOU OFFICIALS. HIS MEETINGS HAD BEEN ARRANGED DIRECTLY BETWEEN HIS STAFF AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THERE WAS NO EMBASSY PARTICIPATION. THE SENATOR ALSO CALLED AT THE RESIDENCE AND LATER WAS BRIEFED AT THE EMBASSY, AT HIS REQUEST, ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN URUGUAY. I DESCRIBED THE SITUATION IN DEPTH, AS I DID MY MEETINGS WITH SENIOR URUGUAYAN OFFICIALS TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER PSYCHOLOGICAL AND OTHER ABUSES. IN VIEW OF THE SENATOR'S DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN THE URUGUAYAN SITUATION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PREPARING FOR SENATOR HELMS A LETTER SIMILAR TO THAT I UNDERSTAND IS BEING PREPARED FOR REPS. FRASER AND KOCH ON THE BASIS OF RECENT EMBTELS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. END SUMMARY.

2. SENATOR AND MRS. JESS A. HELMS, ACCOMPANIED BY AIDES JAMES LUCIER (AND WIFE), JOHN CARBAUGH, AND VICTOR FEDIAY, VISITED MONTEVIDEO JULY 6-7. DURING HIS VISIT, THE SENATOR MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BLANCO, THE FONOFF'S DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN POLICY, THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE AND WITH THE COMMANDERS IN CHIEF OF THE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MONTEV 02524 082013Z

ARMED FORCES. ALL THESE MEETINGS HAD BEEN ARRANGED DIRECTLY

BY THE SENATOR'S STAFF. EMBASSY PERSONNEL WERE NEITHER
PRESENT AT THESE MEETINGS NOR INFORMED AS TO THEIR PURPOSE.

3. THE HELMS PARTY CAME TO MY RESIDENCE FOR COCKTAILS AND
TO CHAT WITH SENIOR STAFF ON THE EVENING OF JULY 6. THE
SENATOR REQUESTED, AND WAS PROVIDED, AN EMBASSY BRIEFING ON
HUMAN RIGHTS THE FOLLOWING AFTERNOON. DURING THE BRIEFING
WHICH WAS BASED LARGELY ON MATERIAL AND FACTS OUTLINED IN
MONTEVIDEO 2341, 2324, 2322, AND 2270, AND PREVIOUS, WE TOOK
PARTICULAR PAINS TO PUT THE ENTIRE HUMAN RIGHTS PICTURE INTO
PERSPECTIVE. WHILE THE DATA AND VIEWPOINTS WE EXPRESSED
INDICATED THE DEGREE TO WHICH WE BELIEVE AI'S, WILSON
FERREIRA'S AND OTHERS' ATTACK ON URUGUAY ARE DISTORTED,
EXAGGERATED OR UNTRUE, WE ALSO STATED THE DEGREE TO WHICH
WE BELIEVE VIOLATIONS ARE TRUE; ALSO WE CAREFULLY OUTLINED
FOR THE SENATOR THE ARREST AND DETENTION PROCEDURES FOLLOWED
BY URUGUAYAN AUTHORITIES, AND DESCRIBED MY DISCUSSIONS WITH
THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN OVER PSYCHOLOGICAL AND OTHER ABUSES,
INCLUDING LONG DETENTIONS PRIOR TO ARRAIGNMENT.

4. I UNDERSTAND THAT, BASED ON MY RECOMMENDATION IN OUR
UNCLASSIFIED CABLE, MONTEVIDEO 2341, THE DEPARTMENT IS PRE-
PARING A LETTER INTENDED FOR CONGRESSMEN FRASER AND KOCH, TO
INCLUDE TIMELY DATA TO CORRECT THE DISTORTED PORTRAYAL OF
THE URUGUAYAN SITUATION WHICH APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL
RECORD. I REFER, OF COURSE, TO THE RECORD BASED ON WILSON
FERREIRA ALDUNATE'S CHARGES AND REP. KOCH'S ACCUSATIONS THAT
THIS EMBASSY HAD MISLED THE DEPARTMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE
SITUATION HERE. I ALSO DESCRIBED THESE DEVELOPMENTS TO
SENATOR HELMS, WHO SHOWED REAL INTEREST. CONSIDERING THIS,
THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO SEND A SIMILAR LETTER TO THE SENATOR.
SIRACUSA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MONTEV02524
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760264-0518
From: MONTEVIDEO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760780/aaaacrvo.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION H
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MONTEVIDEO 2368
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <01 NOV 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SENATOR HELMS VISIT TO URUGUAY
TAGS: OTRA, OVIP, UY, (HELMS, JESSE A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006